## The County of Centre

## PROCLAMATION

## **NUMBER 20 OF 2012**

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and income levels; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is widespread and affects over four million Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, one in three Americans have witnessed an incident of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, children that grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence costs the nation billions of dollars annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelters, foster care, sick leave, absenteeism, and non-productivity; and

WHEREAS, only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to this heinous crime;

**WHEREAS,** Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the Centre County Commissioners hereby proclaim the month of October 2012 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" and urge the citizens of Centre County speak out against domestic violence and to work together to eliminate domestic violence from our community.

ADOPTED this 9th day of October, 2012.

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steven G. Dershem, Chairman

C Chris Evarchos

Michael Pipe

ATTEST:

Timothy T. Boyde, Director Administrative Services